



City and County of the City of Chester

ANNUAL REPORT

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND
COUNCILLORS OF THE CITY AND
COUNTY OF THE CITY OF CHESTER

on the

HEALTH OF THE CITY
IN 1942

by

J. W. LOBBAN, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1941-42.

Chairman - - COUNCILLOR E. E. ASHTON.

Deputy Chairman - - COUNCILLOR ARTHUR CHARMLEY.

Members.

ALDERMAN F. D. PRICE.	COUNCILLOR R. MATTHEWS JONES.
ALDERMAN CHARLES SCONCE.	COUNCILLOR DAVID R. OWEN.
COUNCILLOR ALBERT DAVIES.	COUNCILLOR T. D. GILBRIDE.
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COUNCILLOR S. JANE DUNNE.	COUNCILLOR M. ELEANOR CRYER.
COUNCILLOR CLAUDE CRIMES.	COUNCILLOR G. B. JACKSON.

The Mayor (Alderman W. MATTHEWS JONES) is an ex-officio member of all Committees of the Council.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health, School Medical Officer, Medical Superintendent, Corporation Hospitals, and Tuberculosis Officer.	J. W. Lobban, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.
Acting Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Deputy School Medical Officer	Jessie M. R. Tytler, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Part-time Maternity and Child Welfare Officer, etc.	Mary T. Place, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Chief Sanitary Inspector, Food Inspector, Factory Acts Supervision, etc.	**S. H. Moore, F.S.I.A., F.R.S.I.
Additional Sanitary Inspector, Food Inspector, etc.	**W. B. Calder, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.
Assistant District Inspector	H. J. Hewitt, M.S.I.A.
Housing Inspector	*M. G. H. Tresidder, C.R.S.I.
Public Abattoir Superintendent and Additional Sanitary Inspector	*J. H. Withington, M.S.I.A.
Superintendent Health Visitor and Assistant Inspector of Midwives.	†Miss M. H. Beattie, S.R.N., H.V.C.
Health Visitors	†Miss L. Robson, A.R.San.I., M.I.H. †Mrs. A. E. Austin, S.R.N. †Miss Z. K. Wilkins, S.R.N., H.V.C. †Miss M. A. Owen, S.R.N., H.V.C. †Miss M. T. Ewing, S.R.N., H.V.C.
Chief Clerk	F. Thomas.
Temporary Assistant Clerk	Miss A. Turner.
Temporary Assistant Clerk (Part time, School Medical)	Miss M. Dodd.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS—continued.

Temporary Assistant Clerk (Part time, School Medical)	Miss M. Ruscoe.
Matron, Isolation Hospital	Miss L. Taylor, S.R.N.

CITY HOSPITAL.

Consulting Surgeons	J. N. Adam, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S.E. A. W. Holgate, M.S., F.R.C.S.
Consulting Physician	A. B. Paul, M.A., M.B., B.Ch.
Consulting Gynaecologist	J. G. Wigley, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., F.R.C.S.
Consulting Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon	A. W. McCay, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S.E.
Consulting Radiologist	D. Bruce Faulds, M.B., Ch.B., D.M.R.E.
Consulting Radiologist	R. F. Innes, M.B., Ch.B., D.M.R.E.
Consulting Orthopaedic Surgeon ..	G. T. Partridge, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., F.R.C.S.
Consulting Ophthalmic Surgeon ...	E. F. Wilson, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.
Consulting Dental Surgeon	N. A. James, L.D.S.
Senior Resident Medical Officer ...	H. A. Freeman, M.R.C.S.
Steward	E. Bennion.
Matron	Miss Moss.
Almoner	Miss Hyde.
Radiographer	Mrs. White.

† Certificate, Royal Sanitary Institute, Meat and Food Inspection.

* Certificate, Liverpool University, Meat and Food Inspection.

§ Certificate, Liverpool University, Sanitary Science.

‡ Certificate, Central Midwives Board.

The following members of the Public Health staff are serving with H.M. Forces.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health—

H. E. C. Sutton, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. : Major, R.A.M.C.

District Additional Sanitary Inspectors—

W. H. Wilkinson : Captain, R.A.

G. E. Jarvis : 2nd Lieutenant, R.E.

Assistant Clerks—

R. W. Hudson, Corporal, R.A.M.C.

C. Stoddard, Sergeant, R.A.M.C.

To the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my report upon the health of the City in 1942.

In the preparation of the report Circular 2604 of the Ministry of Health has been followed and the report is abbreviated.

During the year the Temporary Deputy Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Mary Place, found she could no longer continue to act full time and Dr. Jessie M. R. Tytler was appointed. In December, Dr. Tytler was called up for service with H.M Forces and the Ministry of Health decided that no temporary Deputy should be appointed. Much of the reorganisation consequent upon this had to be carried out in the School Medical Services and details are given in my report as School Medical Officer.

It will be appreciated that this reduction in medical staff means an increased burden on the remaining staff. We shall not be in a position during succeeding years with a depleted medical staff to continue the Diphtheria Immunisation campaign as in past years.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

J. W. LOBBAN.

LABORATORY SERVICES.

The arrangements for Laboratory Services with the Chester Royal Infirmary have continued and, during 1942, 4794 specimens were examined.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

On January 1st, 1942, the ambulances previously manned by the Fire Brigade were handed over to the Civil Defence Casualty Services. The change-over was effected smoothly. The services are available as hitherto and the women ambulance drivers with male first aid party personnel have undertaken their duties with interest and enthusiasm.

NURSING IN THE HOME.

No change.

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS.

The following clinics are administered by the Local Authority :—

	Situation.	Accommodation.
1. Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic	Princess Street ...	Waiting room, weighing room, consulting room.
2. Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic	Curzon St., Saltney	Waiting and weighing room, consulting room
3. Ante-Natal Clinic	Princess Street ...	Waiting room, consulting room.
4. School Clinic (inspection) ...	"	"
5. School Clinic (treatment) ...	"	"
6. Ultra Violet Ray Clinic ...	"	"
7. Tuberculosis Clinic ...	2, King's Buildings	"
8. Venereal Disease Centre ...	Chester Royal Infirmary	Waiting, treatment and ablution room.

A Local Committee under the auspices of the British Red Cross Society and Order of St. John of Jerusalem administers the

9. Orthopædic after care Clinic	2, King's Buildings	Waiting room and consulting room.
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MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

1. **Princess Street Clinic.**—Two sessions are held weekly and a medical officer, Dr. Place, attends for consultation.

The babies and children under the age of five years are regularly weighed and records of progress kept.

When necessary children and mothers are seen by the Medical Officer.

The following attendances were made during the year:—

(a) by children under 1 year of age	4018
(b) by children between the ages of one and five years	1340
(c) by mothers	5005

(2) **Saltney Clinic.**—The same Medical Officer attends this clinic which meets once weekly.

(a) by children under 1 year	794
(b) by children between the ages of one and five years	473
(c) by mothers	993

The following were the consultations with the Medical Officer:—

	Princess St	Saltney
First visits of children under 1 year ...	361	83
Subsequent visits	950	406
Children (1—5 years) first visits	91	10
Subsequent visits	494	220
Mothers (consultations)	28	12

A voluntary body—the Chester Infant Welfare Committee—have a rota of voluntary workers who attend these clinics and provide tea, etc., for the mothers.

In addition, garments, etc., for babies are provided for necessitous cases.

The work of this Committee is much appreciated.

(3) **Ante-Natal Clinic.**—The ante-natal clinic is held once a week under the charge of the Maternity and Child Welfare Medical Officer.

Expectant mothers are examined and advised, and the midwife interested in the case is written to if not present.

During the year the Medical Officer has seen 184 mothers who have paid 452 visits.

Cases were sent to Hospital if requiring special treatment, or if the home conditions were such as to contra indicate home confinement.

Clothing coupons were issued to 846 expectant mothers.

Ante-natal and post-natal clinics are held at the City Hospital, details of which will be given later in the report.

(4) **The School Clinic (Inspection)** meets every School-day and is in charge of the Deputy School Medical Officer.

(5) **The School Clinic (Treatment)** meets on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays and is under the charge of the same medical officer.

(6) **Ultra Violet Ray Clinic.** This clinic is held on Tuesdays and Fridays.

(7) **The Tuberculosis Clinic** meets on Mondays and Thursdays at 11 a.m. and on Thursdays at 6 p.m.

The number of patients on the Dispensary register at the end of the year was	261
Number of new cases examined	127
Number of contacts examined	56
Number of attendances at the Dispensary	281
Number of attendances for refills in artificial pneumothorax	246
Number of visits of tuberculosis officer to homes	30
Number of "T.B. plus" cases on the Register	74
those under Tuberculosis Regulations)	918
Number of X-ray examinations made	204

(8) **Venereal Diseases Centre.**—The following sessions are held:—

Monday (5—7 p.m.) female.
 Wednesday (5—7 p.m.) male.
 Thursday (5—7 p.m.) female.
 Saturday (12—2 p.m.) male.

The clinic is open all day for irrigations, and trained assistants are in attendance.

The clinic is a joint one for Chester and the Counties of Cheshire and Flintshire.

The following is a table of the work done in 1942:—

	Syphilis.		Gonorrhœa.		Conditions other than Venereal.		Total.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Number of Cases at beginning of year	186	105	409	162	6	7	601	274
Number attending for first time 1942 ...	45	32	82	47	24	66	157	145
Ceased to attend or transferred to other centres	26	4	65	7	—	—	91	11
Discharged	21	16	53	33	11	32	85	81
Number under treatment at end of year	184	117	373	169	19	41	576	327

The following is the number of Chester patients attending during the year for the last five years:—

	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942
Syphilis	14	16	12	15	16
Gonorrhœa	52	54	35	39	36
Conditions other than venereal	11	5	13	4	23

The number of attendances made by Chester patients was 1220.

(9) **The Orthopaedic After-Care Clinic** meets once a week when the cases are seen by the specialist staff of the Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital, Oswestry. During the year 152 cases were under treatment and they made 531 attendances.

The following are details of the cases:—

	On Books 1/1/42	Admitted during 1942	No. Treated during 1942	Discharged during 1942	On Books 31 12/42	Attendances during 1942	
					Active Treat- ment	Appliance Super- vision	
Under 5 years ...	15	23	38	11	27	—	117
5—16 years ...	62	10	72	16	56	—	284
16 years and over ...	17	4	21	2	9	10	18
Tubercular Cases (all ages)	14	7	21	2	17	2	111
Totals ...	108	44	152	31	109	12	531

I have to thank most cordially once again the British Red Cross Society and the Order of St. John of Jerusalem whose enthusiasm and help combine to make a success of the clinic.

Much good work is done in after-care of cripples by the members of these societies.

During 1942 there were 18 Chester patients sent by the Maternity and Child Welfare and Education Committee and the Tuberculosis Officer to the Robert Jones and the Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital, Oswestry, and 6 remained from 1941.

These patients spent 3,710 in-patient days in hospital.

The staff of the Hospital continue to co-operate with the Medical Staff of the Local Authority in the most helpful manner.

HOSPITALS.

Name.	Situation.	Purpose.	No. or Available Beds	Pro- portion used by City Residents	Management.
Chester Royal Infirmery	City ...	General ...	225	$\frac{1}{4}$	Voluntary Agency
City Hospital	... City ...	General ...	248	17	Local Authority
Cheshire Joint Sanatorium	Market Drayton	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	250	$\frac{1}{10}$	Joint Committee
Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Ortho- paedic Hospital	Gobowen ...	Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis and other crippling con- ditions	300	$\frac{1}{18}$	Voluntary Agency
Isolation Hospital ...	1 mile from centre of City	Infectious Diseases	68	$\frac{2}{3}$	Local Authority
Smallpox Hospital ...	" "	Smallpox ...	10	—	Local Authority
Cheshire Joint Board for Mentally Defective	Holmes Chapel	Mental Defectives	318	$\frac{1}{10}$	Joint Board
Liverpool Sanatorium	Delamere ...	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	175	$\frac{1}{18}$	Voluntary Agency

The location and amount of bed accommodation for various conditions is given where possible in the following table:—

			Chester Royal Infirmary.	City Hospital.	Isolation Hospital Chester.	Cheshire Joint Sanatorium.	Liverpool Sanatorium Delamere	Cheshire Joint Board for the Mentally Defective	Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopædic Hospital.
General Medical	...	M	16	16	—	—	—	—	—
"	...	F	16	16	—	—	—	—	—
General Surgical	...	M	52	10	—	—	—	—	—
"	...	F	32	10	—	—	—	—	—
Gynæcological	...	...	15	6	—	—	—	—	—
Children	...	...	26	38	—	—	—	—	—
Maternity	...	...	—	56	—	—	—	—	—
Venereal Diseases	...	M	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
"	...	F	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis Pulmonary		M	—	—	—	4*	*6†	—	—
"		F	—	—	—	4*	*2†	—	—
"	"	Children	—	—	—	—	*2†	—	—
Tuberculosis Non-Pulmon.		M	—	—	—	—	—	—	†
"		F	—	—	—	—	—	—	†
"	"	Children	—	—	—	—	—	—	†
Chronic Sick	...	M	—	28	—	—	—	—	—
"	...	F	—	26	—	—	—	—	—
Orthopædic	...	M	10	7	—	—	—	—	†
"	...	F	6	6	—	—	—	—	†
Ear, Nose and Throat		M	5	—†	—	—	—	—	—
"	...	F	5	—†	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum		...	—†	—†	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmic	...	M	6	—†	—	—	—	—	—
"	...	F	6	—†	—	—	—	—	—
Infectious Diseases	...	...	—	—	68	—	—	—	—
Mental Defectives	...	M	—	—	—	—	—	12	—
"	...	F	—	—	—	—	—	20	—
Isolation Wards	...	...	—	10	—	—	—	—	—
Private Wards	...	...	22	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other	...	...	—	19	—	—	—	—	—

* Beds used by Chester County Borough.

† Beds given as required

‡ Extra Beds provided if necessary.

CHESTER CITY HOSPITAL.

The following statistics show the work done:—

	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942
Admissions	2017	2325	2469	2628	2843
Births	270	410	408	494	501
Discharges	1808	2059	2042	2341	2520
Surgical Operations	356	369	415	515	588

Statistics for the year ended 31st December, 1942:—

	1942	(1941)
Number of Admissions	2843	(2628)
Number of women confined in hospital	531	(494)
Number of live births	501	(471)
Number of still births	32	(29)
Number of maternal deaths	3	(3)
Total number of deaths	312	(263)
Total number of discharges	2520	(2341)
Duration of stay—		
(a) under 4 weeks	2390	(1804)
(b) 4 to 13 weeks	367	(609)
(c) 13 weeks and over	86	(215)
Average number of beds occupied	180	(177)
(a) highest	221 14/2/42	(231) (1/2/41)
(b) lowest	152 8/8/42	(149) (23/8/41)
Surgical operations under general anaesthetic .	588	(545)
Number of abdominal sections	152	(184)
Total number of patients x-rayed	1147	(177)
Total number of films taken	1906	(1882)

Cheshire County Council patients admitted during the year numbered 454 of whom 202 were maternity cases.

53 maternity cases were admitted from the County of Merioneth.
Ante-Natal and Post Natal Clinics.

Ante-natal Clinic—

	No. of Patients	No. of Attendances
City Expectant Mothers	357	2058
County ditto	192	984
Other ditto	25	122
Total	574	3164

Of the total of 574 patients, 96 had attended for the first time in 1941.

Post-natal Clinic—

		attendances
City cases	79	83
County cases	38	40
Other	4	4
Total	121	126

During the year it was necessary to increase the accommodation for maternity cases and the first floor of the main hospital block became

the maternity department. Accommodation was found for the other patients displaced in another part of the hospital.

The arrangements with the Cheshire County Council are working smoothly and the admission of midwifery cases from the County of Merioneth has continued.

Domestic and nursing staff difficulties have continued during the year and it seems likely that the present conditions will remain. It is hoped the establishment of a full training school for nurses will cause an improvement in the nursing staff position.

With regard to resident medical staff the hospital has to rely on newly-qualified practitioners for the Junior resident posts and this necessitates more supervision by the remaining medical and surgical staff.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

There was a decrease in the number of patients admitted to the hospital in 1942 compared with 1941, 464 compared with 567. Of this number (464) 308 cases were from the City of Chester compared with 418 in 1941, and the remainder 156 from outside authorities compared with 149 in 1941. The decrease is due to the drop in the number of cases of Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever in the City. The details will be shown under the various diseases.

Scarlet Fever.

The number of cases admitted was 114. An increase of 22 compared with 1941. City cases however, numbered 66 compared with 80 in 1941.

The cases were uniformly mild with few complications and no deaths.

Diphtheria.

Admissions to the Diphtheria ward and confirmed in the diagnosis were 133 compared with 243 in 1941. Details are as follows:—

	City	Other	Total.
True faucial Diphtheria	92	21	113
Nasal Diphtheria	2	—	2
Diphtheria contacts (positive swabs)	4	1	5
Diphtheria carriers	9	—	9
Aural Diphtheria	2	—	2
Laryngeal Diphtheria (Tracheotomy)	—	1	1
Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever	—	1	1
	109	24	133

In addition 35 cases were admitted and rediagnosed as tonsillitis. Of these 24 were from the City and 11 from outside. Deaths from Diphtheria numbered 2. This is the lowest number of deaths since 1933 when there was 1 death out of 15 total admissions of Diphtheria.

Admissions of other infectious diseases were as follows, Measles 55, Measles and Pneumonia 6, Scabies 19, Scabies and Impetigo 16, Rubella 10, Erysipelas 7, Mumps 22, Cerebrospinal Fever 13, Cerebral polioencephalitis 1, Cerebral Abscess 1, Tubercular Meningitis 1, Whooping Cough 5, Whooping Cough and Broncho Pneumonia 6, Chickenpox 2, Paratyphoid Fever 1, Other Diseases 17.

1941.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Para Typhoid Fever.	Whooping Cough	Tonsillitis.	Measles	Erysipelas.	Cerebro Spinal Fever	Other Conditions	Total
Chester ...	66	109	...	7	24	45	5	5	47	308
Tarvin ...	37	6	1	3	5	...	...	2	4	59
Hoole ...	4	14	...	...	1	1	...	...	2	22
Hawarden ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	3	7
Other ...	7	4	...	1	5	15	2	2	33	60
Total ...	114	133	1	11	35	61	7	13	89	464

The number of patients discharged during the year was 447.

The total number of deaths was 8.

The details of the deaths are as follows:—

	City.	Other.	Total.
Diphtheria	2	—	2
Tubercular Meningitis	—	1	1
Whooping Cough and Broncho Pneumonia ...	1	1	2
Lobar Pneumonia	—	1	1
Acute Cerebral Polioencephalitis	—	1	1
Cerebellar Haemorrhage	—	1	1
Totals	3	5	8

During the year a large number of cases of scabies were treated as outpatients in addition to 35 cases treated as inpatients.

These outpatients numbered 489 comprising 86 people 18 years and over and 403 up to the age of 18 years.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1929.

No further step has been taken to make a declaration under this Act.

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE MEDICAL OUT-RELIEF.

No change has taken place in this service.

INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR THE CARE OF
MENTAL DEFECTIVES.

The total accommodation available for Chester patients in Cranage Hall is as follows:—

High Grade Female	18
High Grade Male	10
Lowest Grade Female	2
Lowest Grade Male	2
	32

In addition there are Chester cases in various institutions in the Country awaiting transfer to Cranage Hall when more accommodation is available. Details are as follows:—

	Male.	Female
Stoke Park, Bristol	1	2
Moss Side State Institution	3	2
Gillibrand Hall, Chorley	—	1
St. Teresa's, Lewisham	—	1
Allerton Priory	—	1
Royal Albert, Lancaster	2	—
Newtown and Llanidloes	2	—
Brentry Colony	1	—
Mary Dendy Home, Sandlebridge	1	—
Forden Certified Institution	2	—
Whittingham Hall	—	1
	12	8

MUNICIPAL MIDWIFERY SERVICE.

There are five municipal midwives employed by the Corporation.

During the year they attended 265 cases as midwives and 62 cases as maternity nurses. They paid 5550 daily nursing visits and 1836 ante-natal visits.

Under the provisions of the Midwives Act the Local Authority paid the whole or part of the doctor's fee when called in an emergency by the midwife in 41 cases.

Artificial Feeding. Twelve notifications were received during the year.

Total number of births notified	1198
Cases attended and delivered by doctors	56
Cases attended in nursing homes	327
Cases attended and delivered by midwives	265
Cases attended in hospitals	540
Number of still births	62

Of the 265 births attended by midwives, in 68 cases some condition arose requiring the calling in of Medical help either for the mother or infant. This is a decrease of 6 from last year.

The reasons for requiring help were as follows:—

Feebleness of child	2
Prolonged labour or malpresentation	4
Complications before labour	12
Complications during labour	6
Complications after labour	9
Rise of temperature	2
Discharge from the eyes	6
Lacerated perinaeum	19
Abortion	4
Prematurity	—
Skin eruption	1
Abnormality of child	3

INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR MOTHERS AND CHILDREN.

The accommodation at the City Hospital is adequate for the needs of the City.

During the year accommodation was available for healthy children up to the age of 3 years in the Public Assistance Institution, and over 3 years such children are accommodated in the Children's Home, Wrexham Road, Chester.

Marasmic and ailing babies are admitted to the Children's Ward at the City Hospital.

HEALTH VISITORS.

The number of health visitors is six.

The health visitors made the following visits:—

Primary Births Visits	756
Return Visits	4894
Visits to Children (1—5 years)	12864
Visits to Expectant Mothers	971
Other visits	1747
Visits to Midwives	22

The visits to cases of tuberculosis are shown elsewhere in the report.

INFANT LIFE PROTECTION (CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS ACT, 1932).

The Act is administered by the Maternity and Child Welfare Sub-Committee of the Public Health Committee.

The register is kept in the Public Health Department where all notifications are sent.

The number of children on the register at the end of the year was ten.

DENTAL TREATMENT.

Dental treatment was provided for the nursing and expectant mothers. The treatment is either free, or subject to part payment, according to the means of the family.

Eight cases were treated during the year.

Children under 5 years are treated at the School Dental Clinic.

ORTHOPAEDIC TREATMENT.

As in former years this has been carried out by the Orthopaedic After-Care Committee and the Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital, Oswestry. Fuller details of this work will be found elsewhere in the report.

NURSING HOMES.

The number of nursing homes registered at the end of 1942 was 6.

The following table gives particulars :—

The number of nursing homes registered at the end of 1941 was six.

	Number of Homes	Number of Patients provided for: Maternity	Other	Total
Homes first registered during year* ...	—	—	—	—
Homes on register at the end of the year	6	13 definite plus unallocated number	26	39

Eighteen Inspections of the Homes were made during the year.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

WATER.

The City water supply is obtained through the Chester Waterworks Company. The water is derived from the River Dee and subsequently filtered and chlorinated at the Company's works. The standard of purity—absence of *Bacillus Coli* in 100 c.c.'s of the water as supplied to the consumer—has been maintained throughout the year.

Bacteriological examinations of the water supply, including water from various filter beds, have been carried out twice every month. In addition chemical analyses have been carried out by the Public Analyst every month, and the following table gives the results of these analyses. The samples were taken from the "Low Level Tank (Pure)". This contains the purified filtered water prior to the chlorine treatment on passing to the main Tank for distribution.

CHEMICAL EXAMINATIONS OF CITY WATER SUPPLY, 1941.

Parts per 100,000 of Water	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Total Solid Matter in Solution	22.0	22.0	25.0	19.8	35.0	28.8	37.0	18.0	21.0	16.0	24.0	14.0
Nitrogen in Nitrates and Nitrites	0.2	0.2	0.25	0.3	0.4	0.35	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.12	0.15	0.15
Chlorine and Chlorides	1.8	1.9	2.0	2.1	4.0	3.0	3.7	1.8	2.1	1.8	2.3	1.5
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate in 4 hours at 80° F.	0.05	0.04	0.07	0.04	0.03	0.03	0.024	0.07	0.03	0.098	0.056	0.06
Free and Saline Ammonia	0.007	0.001	0.014	0.003	Nil	Nil	Nil	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001	Nil
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.006	0.005	0.005	0.008	0.004	0.004	0.003	0.007	0.012	0.004	0.005	0.005
Lead, Copper, Zinc	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Micro-copical Examination of Sediment	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Alum	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The following is a classified statement of the work done in the Sanitary Department during the year:—

	1942.
Complaints in respect of nuisances	488
Visits in respect of nuisances	1653
Rooms disinfected after infectious diseases	287
Rooms disinfected for other purposes	180
Investigations into infectious diseases	396
Tests applied to drains	222
Ashbins provided	65
Inspections of Schools	38
Inspection of Canal Boats	55
Inspection of Factories	236
Inspections of Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	153
Inspections of Butchers' shops	1164
Inspections of Fishmongers' shops	1032
Inspections of other food shops	2465
Inspections of Bakehouses	54
Inspections of Offensive Trade premises	9
inspections of Caravans	12
Visits to Common Lodging Houses	28
Dwellings, Inspections and Re-inspections	2074
Visits in respect of Rat Nuisances	1841
Visits to Licensed Victuallers' Premises	130
Visits under Shops Act, 1934	11

The following notices were served for the abatement of nuisances:—

Intimation ..	391
Statutory	5

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

ANALYSES.

Article.	Number Examined			No. Adulterated, &c.		
	Formal	In-formal	Total	Formal	In-formal	Total
Milk	50	8	58*	9	3	12
Sweetened Cordials	2	—	2	—	—	—
Coffee extract and chicory	1	—	1	—	—	—
Rice Pudding Powder	1	1	2	1	1	2
Ice Cream	—	1	1	—	—	—
Batter Mixture	—	1	1	—	—	—
Sponge Mixture	—	2	2	—	—	—
Fish Pastes	—	6	6	—	—	—
Coffee	1	1	2	—	—	—
Self-Raising Flour	—	3	3	—	—	—
Cake Flour (sweetened)	—	2	2	—	—	—
Canned Fish Cake Roll	—	1	1	—	—	—
Meat Paste	—	3	3	—	—	—
Apple Juice	—	1	1	—	—	—
Blanc Mange Powder	—	1	1	—	—	—
National Dried Milk	—	1	1	—	—	—
Custard Pudding Powder	1	1	2	1	1	2
Egg Substitute	—	4	4	—	—	—
Black Pepper	—	1	1	—	—	—
Custard Powder Substitute	—	1	1	—	—	—
Junket Powder	—	1	1	—	—	—
Orange Flavouring	—	1	1	—	—	—
Butter	2	—	2	—	—	—
Margarine	2	—	2	—	—	—
Tea	2	—	2	—	—	—
Whisky	3	—	3	—	—	—
Beer	—	5	5	—	—	—
Castor Oil and Syrup Rhubarb ..	—	1	1	—	—	—
Sugar	6	—	6	—	—	—
Brawn	—	1	1	—	1	1
Luncheon Sausage	—	1	1	—	—	—
Semolina	—	1	1	—	—	—
Bun Flour	—	1	1	—	—	—
Vegetable Extracts	—	2	2	—	—	—
Yorkshire Pudding Mixture	—	1	1	—	—	—
Artificial Glycerine	—	1	1	—	—	—
Chest and Lung Mixture	—	1	1	—	—	—
Castor Oil	—	2	2	—	—	—
Bread	—	3	3	—	—	—
Essence of Almonds	—	1	1	—	—	—
Essence of Raspberry	—	1	1	—	—	—
Plain Flour	—	1	1	—	—	—
Cocoa	—	2	2	—	—	—
Malted Milk	—	1	1	—	—	—
Steak and Kidney Pie	—	1	1	—	—	—
Gravy Colouring	—	1	1	—	—	—
Milk Pudding Powder	—	1	1	—	—	—
Dessicated Soup	—	1	1	—	—	—
Dessert Powder	—	1	1	—	—	—
White Pepper	—	1	1	—	—	—
Baking Powder	—	2	2	—	—	—
Rice Custard Pudding Powder	—	1	1	—	—	—
Ground Ginger	—	1	1	—	—	—
Totals	71	77	148	11	6	17

*Includes 3 samples taken on "Appeal to Cow".

MILK.

Total amples analysed, 58.

Number certified to be "not genuine", 12 or 20.6 per cent.

Averages for fat and solids not-fat, 58—

Averages, 58 samples } Fat, 3.44 per cent.;
 } Solids not fat, 8.54 per cent.

Of 12 samples found to contain solids-not-fat below the standard of 8.5 per cent., five only were certified to be "not genuine". The addition of water being confirmed in these cases by means of the Freezing Point test.

Seasonal variations of milk.

The following averages show the percentage content in fat and solids-not-fat of samples taken between various months:—

	Fat %	Solids-not-Fat %
Standard	3.0	8.5
January to March	3.3	8.67
May to July	2.78	7.23
November to December	3.83	8.59

Schedule of Administrative action taken in regard to samples
certified to be "not genuine."

No. of Sample.	Name of Article.	Result of Analysis.	Action Taken.
3 (Informal)	Milk ..	76% deficient in Fat.	{ Retailer (Pasteuriser) visited and further samples taken which proved genuine
26	Milk ..	46% deficient in Fat.	{ Samples 31, 22 & 33. "Appeal to cow" and bulk samples from evening's milking certified genuine Warning letter sent to producer.
30	Milk ..	56% deficient in Fat.	{ Sample No. 41 taken 'in course of delivery' from Wholesaler (Pasteuriser) to Retailer.
41	Milk ..	43% deficient in Fat.	Warning letter sent to Wholesaler.
44	Milk ..	53% deficient in Fat.	Legal Proceedings. Fine £2 & costs 10/6.
46	Milk ...	13% deficient in Fat.	See Sample No. 49.
49	Milk ...	6% deficient in Fat.	{ Bulk sample from farm. Letters sent to Retailer & Producer calling attention to results of analyses.
52	Milk ...	3% added water.	{ Samples 57 & 58 taken 'in course of delivery' from Wholesaler (Pasteuriser) to retailer. Warning letters sent.
56 (Informal)	Rice Pudding Powder ...	Consists mainly of wheat flour with a little sugar.	See Formal Sample No. 59.
59	Rice Pudding Powder ...	Sample contains 75% Wheat Flour.	Legal Proceedings. Fine £4 & costs £8 2
60 (Informal)	Milk ..	Contained 53% added water.	{ Brought in by consumer. Sealed bottle See sample No. 61.
61	Milk ...	Contained 9% added water. Confirmed by Freezing Point Test.	Legal Proceedings. Case dismissed.
74 (Informal)	Custard Pudding Powder ...	Contains a few fragments of mites.	See Formal Sample No. 89
89	Custard Pudding Powder ...	"Swarming" with mites (acarids).	{ Manufacturer's interviewed by Town Clerk. Whole consignment issued from Factory on same date as that of sampled supply. Withdrawn from sale. Consignment in shop from which sample taken, condemned and destroyed.
127	Milk ...	Contained 12% added water.	Taken in 'course of delivery'. See Sample No. 133
133 (Appeal to cow)	Milk ...	Contained 6% added water.	{ Taken on "appeal to cow" and after cooling another sample before cooling proved genuine. Cooler leaky. Legal Proceedings instituted. Fines £1 & £1 14 6 costs.
140 (Informal)	Brawn ...	Contained 0.1% Boric Acid.	{ Further samples unobtainable as Supplier ceased to deliver

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDERS, 1936 and 1938.

The following licences were issued during the year:—

(1) Producers' licences—"Accredited" Milk	6
(2) Pasteuriser's licence	1
(3) Supplementary licences to sell—	
(a) Tuberculin Tested milk	1
(b) Accredited milk	2
(c) Pasteurised milk	2
(4) Dealers' licences—	
(a) Tuberculin Tested milk	1
(b) Accredited milk	1
(c) Pasteurised milk	1

EXAMINATION OF MILK FOR TUBERCULOSIS.

Thirty samples of milk were submitted to the Pathological Department, Royal Infirmary, Chester, during the year. The present of tuberculosis was found in 4 (or 13.3 per cent.) of the samples. Two of the affected herds were situate in the City and two in the County. Particulars of these positive results were notified to the Ministry of Agriculture (Animal Health Division), and in addition the County Medical Officer of Health was informed of the two cases in his area. By the end of the year the affected cattle had been traced and slaughtered and subsequent milk samples proved the herds to be giving milk free from Tubercle bacilli.

BACTERIOLOGICAL MILK SAMPLES.

Twenty-six (26) samples of milk were obtained for the purposes of bacteriological examination. Of these, 24 samples were "Pasteurised" milk and 2 Raw milk, taken prior to pasteurisation.

The following tabular statement sets out results of the examinations:—

Type of Milk.	Phosphatase Test.		Bacterial Count		Absent	B. Coli.	
	Satisfactory	Not Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Not Satisfactory		Present in 0.1cc	Present in 1.00cc
"Pasturised" (24)	16	8	21	3	22	1	1
Raw Milk (2) ...	—	—	—	2	—	2	—

Pasteurised Milk samples Nod. 3 to 9 (inclusive) were obtained following pasteurisation during which the Sanitary Inspector had the

plant under observation. The recording charts showed the milk to have been raised to the temperature necessary for efficient pasteurisation and to have been retained in the holders for the prescribed thirty minutes' heat treatment.

On receipt of information that the phosphatase tests were unsatisfactory in 6 of the 7 samples taken, it was arranged for further samples to be obtained under the observation of two Sanitary Inspectors. At this inspection, and before the milk was subjected to treatment, the pasteurising plant recording instruments were checked, a standard thermometer being used as a control. The samples subsequently taken all proved satisfactory in regard to pasteurisation. As no changes had taken place, either in the plant or method of treatment, during the taking of the first group of samples and the second, it would appear that the agent used in the estimation of the phosphatase test was at fault.

Of the 24 samples of pasteurised milk examined 21 passed the bacterial standard, having less than 100,000 bacteria per c.c. Only two of the samples contained *Bacillus Coli*, one in .01 c.c. and one in .001 c.c. of the milk.

The two samples of Raw or untreated milk taken at the Depot immediately on arrival from the wholesaler and before being passed into the pasteuriser proved the milk to be greatly contaminated.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

During 1942 the following "licences to slaughter" were issued—
Renewal Licences 13.

Slaughtering in the City.

During the year there were slaughtered in the Public Abattoir—
Cattle 3,169, Calves 3,040, Sheep 18,180, Pigs 478. Total 23,447.

FOOD INSPECTION.

For the purposes of food inspection the following visits were made to—Butchers' shops 1,164, Fishmonger's shops 1,032, Other food shops, stores, stalls etc., 2,465. Total 4,661.

UNSOUND FOOD, 1942.

Article.	No.	Reason for condemnation.
*BEEF.		
Whole carcasses and offal ...	171	Generalised Tuberculosis.
" " " " ...	13	Oedema.
" " " " ...	12	Septicaemia.
" " " " ...	10	Febrility.
" " " " ...	7	Emaciation and Johnnes Disease.
" " " " ...	2	Pyæmia.
Quarters ...	71	Localised Tuberculosis.
" " " " ...	4	Extensive Contusion.
PORK.		
Whole carcasses and offal ...	7	Generalised Tuberculosis
" " " " ...	2	Febrility.
" " " " ...	7	Oedema.
" " " " ...	2	Pyæmia.
MUTTON.		
Whole carcasses and offal ...	7	Oedema.
" " " " ...	2	Pyæmia.
" " " " ...	3	Febrility.
" " " " ...	1	Extreme Contusion.
" " " " ...	1	Gangrene.
VEAL.		
Whole carcasses and offal ...	9	Febrility.
" " " " ...	6	Generalised Tuberculosis.
" " " " ...	5	Umbilical Pyæmia.
" " " " ...	1	Emaciation.
" " " " ...	1	Extensive Contusion.
VISCERA, &c. (lbs.) ...	20299	Localised Tuberculosis, parasitic and other conditions.
MISCELLANEOUS.		
Boneless Meat imported (lbs.) ...	377	Bone Taint.
Bacon (lbs.) ...	443	Decomposed.
Ham (lbs.) ...	43	Soiled by disinfectant.
Meat Pies (lbs.) ...	16	Decomposed, Blown, etc.
Sausages (lbs.) ...	8	do.
Brawn (lbs.) ...	152	do.
Rabbits (lbs.) ...	108	do.
Pork Luncheon Meat (6lb. Tins) ...	100	do.
Corned Beef " ...	141	do.
Chopped Ham " ...	133	do.
Ox Tongue " ...	18	do.
Meat Roll " ...	5	do.
Jellied Veal (lbs.) ...	6	do.
Brisket Beef (lbs.) ...	2	do.
Onions (lbs.) ...	336	do.
Dried Apples (lbs.) ...	160	do.
Watercress (lbs.) ...	16	do.
Mustard and Cress (lbs.) ...	10	do.
Cheese (lbs.) ...	484	do.
Butter (lbs.) ...	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	do.
Eggs (dozens) ...	39	do.
Dried Eggs ...	8	do.
Milk (Tins) ...	2222	do.
Dried Household Milk (Tins) ...	6	Affected by Damp.
Flour (lbs.) ...	1320	Affected by Weevil.
ditto ...	129	Soiled by Mice.
ditto ...	56	Soiled in transit.
Cakes (lbs.) ...	5	Soiled by Mice.

UN SOUND FOOD, 1942—Continued.

Article.	No.	Reason for condemnation.
Biscuits (lbs.)	19	Damp and Mould.
Fruit, Fish, Vegetables, Soups, Jams, etc (Tins, etc.) ...	2961	Decomposed, Blown, etc.
Flaked Rice (lbs.)	58	Affected by Weevil.
Harricot Beans (lbs.)	102	do.
Butter Beans (lbs.)	396	do.
Custard Pudding Powder (pkts.) ...	82	Affected by Mites.
Sweetened Custard Powder (lbs.) ...	112	Soiled by Mice.
Shredded Suet (lbs.)	21	Soiled in transit.
Sweets (lbs.)	7	Contaminated by Glass.
Lightcakes (lbs.)	87	Decomposed, etc.
Dried Prunes (lbs.)	58	do.
Cod (lbs.)	315	do.
Haddock (lbs.)	252	do.
Lemon Soles (lbs.)	154	do.
Dabs (lbs.)	280	do.
Witches (lbs.)	350	do.
Whiting (lbs.)	350	do.
Mackerel (lbs.)	280	do.
Megrims (lbs.)	56	do.
Herrings (lbs.)	308	do.
Pollack (lbs.)	14	do.
Mixed Fish (lbs.)	352	do.
Fish Roes (lbs.)	132	do.
Cured Fillets (lbs.)	126	do.
Kippers (lbs.)	2776	do.
Kippered Horse Mackerel (lbs.) ...	196	do.
	30	do.
Fish Cakes (lbs.)	74	do.
Cockles (lbs.)	48	do.

*Note:—Included under these headings were “Casualty beasts”, “Sale Rejects” and cattle slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order.

Total estimated weight of food condemned:—71 tons 5 cwts 2 qrs.

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

Our campaign was continued in 1942 and during the year 2,256 children were immunised and 1,077 schick-tested following immunisation.

Of the 2,256 immunised, 736 were under five years and 1,520 in the age group 5-15 years.

Since the commencement of diphtheria immunisation in Chester in 1930 over 10,000 children have been immunised.

During the same period there were 1,269 cases of diphtheria in non-immunised people with 83 deaths.

During the same period there were 32 cases of diphtheria in previously immunised people; of these only two were severe and there were no deaths.

BLIND PERSONS ACT, 1920.

The care of the blind in Chester has been delegated to the Chester and District Blind Welfar Society. The Local Authority contributes a sum towards the administration expenses of the Society and is represented on the management.

There were 84 cases on the register at the end of the year. Nine licences were issued for wireless sets to blind people. e

The health visitor paid 139 visits to blind persons during the year.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Five cases were notified during the year. In all cases the vision was unimpaired.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925, SECTION 66.

A scheme under this section was approved by the Ministry of Health in 1937.

TUBERCULOSIS, 1942.

Particulars of new cases of tuberculosis during 1942 are given below.

Age Periods			NEW CASES			
			Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
			Males	Females	Males	Females
0—	...	...	0	0	2	0
1—	...	...	0	0	2	3
5—	...	...	0	0	2	1
15—	...	...	3	10	3	0
25—	...	...	7	4	0	1
35—	...	...	1	5	0	0
45—	...	...	4	2	0	1
55—	...	...	5	1	0	0
65 and upwards...			0	0	0	0
Totals	...		20	22	9	6

Three deaths occurred during the year in non-notified cases.

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS)
REGULATIONS, 1925.

There has been no occasion to act under this regulation.

CLEANSING AND DISINFECTION OF VERMINOUS PERSONS AND THEIR BELONGINGS.

A shampoo station is freely used for the cleansing of heads of school children. In cases of body vermin, which are fortunately few, they are treated at the Disinfecting Station at the Isolation Hospital, where clothes and bedding are also treated. Occasionally we are asked to deal with an adult, who is dealt with in a similar fashion.

SCABIES ORDER, 1941.

The medical practitioners in the City have taken advantage of the facilities available for treatment of cases of scabies at the Isolation Hospital. Contacts of notified cases have been followed up and where necessary treated.

The total number treated at the Isolation Hospital during 1942 was 489 as compared with 143 in 1941.

Of the 489, 86 were over 18 years and the remainder under 18 years.

CANCER.

Facilities for the diagnosis and treatment of Cancer are available at the Chester Royal Infirmary which is equipped with Radium Deep X-Ray Therapy and Endo-diathermy supplied by the Cheshire and North Wales Group Executive of the British Empire Cancer Campaign.

The Radium Department was opened in 1930 and Dr. Ralston Paterson of the Christie Hospital and Holt Radium Institute, Manchester, acts as consultant.

Cases of cancer are sent from the City and surrounding areas. Beds are available for in-patient treatment in the Royal Infirmary.

City cases can be admitted to the City Hospital administered by the Local Authority, but only operative treatment can be undertaken and if Radium or Deep X-Ray Therapy is necessary, cases may be transferred for treatment in the Royal Infirmary.

